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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JEANNE SHAHEEN, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God of infinite goodness, confirm Your past mercies by empowering us to be faithful to Your commands. Help our lawmakers this day to use their understanding, affection, health, time, and talent to do what You desire. May the desire to please You with faithful service rule their hearts without a rival, guiding their thoughts, words, and works. By living to honor You, enable them to fulfill their duty to love You with all their heart, mind, soul, and strength. Lord, take possession of their hearts and order their steps by the power of Your loving providence.

We pray in Your sacred Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JEANNE SHAHEEN led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read as follows:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 25, 2010.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JEANNE SHAHEEN, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. SHAHEEN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Madam President, following any leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 4899, the emergency supplemental appropriations bill. The Senate will recess from 12:30 until 2:15 to allow for the weekly caucus luncheons. Rollcall votes are expected to occur throughout the day in relation to amendments to the supplemental appropriations bill.

SENATE WORKLOAD

Mr. REID. Madam President, as we look around the world, we have lots of issues that are extremely difficult ones. We have the Korean Peninsula situation that has drawn so much attention and rightfully so. We now have our Secretary of State in China working on this and other issues, and the Secretary of the Treasury is there. We have a situation where it appears a South Korean Navy ship was sunk for no reason; that dealt with the security of North Korea. We have the oil spewing into the gulf—thousands and thousands of barrels every day.

We have two wars we are watching closely, of course, in Iraq and Afghanistan. We have the situation in Europe, where governments are staggering because of financial problems. We have our own economy, which is doing better but certainly far from being where we want it to be. Then, on the floor this week we have two extremely important issues to deal with. One is the supplemental appropriations bill that

we have combined with one given to us by the White House. We have the war spending, and then we have all the emergencies that came up during this year. Every year, this is something we always do.

We have to figure out a way to get through these in the next couple days. The House is going to act either tonight or tomorrow on an extenders bill—doing a lot of good things that our country and our economy needs very badly. We realize the efforts we have to undertake on the floor today, recognizing, of course, that we are not going to be dealing with all the issues I outlined, but we have important things to do this week. It will take the cooperation of both sides to get it done. I appreciate everybody's attention to the issues at hand but especially during this week.

I hope it is not necessary that we are going to be in session during the Memorial Day recess. There are a lot of issues we all have to take care of at home. When we go home, it is not a question of sitting around the pool, sipping cold drinks. We have a lot of work to do. The people we represent need to see us. Not everybody can come to Washington and meet with us. There are people out there whom we are fortunate to be able to meet with during the break. When we are stuck in Washington, many times they simply cannot afford to come here. We also have the Memorial Day observances that are important to everybody, including the families of those who have lost loved ones. I hope everyone recognizes we have to try to get a lot of things done in the next few days.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BEGICH). The Republican leader is recognized.

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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